



Gregory J. Nickels  
Mayor of Seattle

November 7, 2005

Dear Mayor \_\_\_\_\_:

Thank you again for participating in the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

Our progress to date is impressive – 187 mayors representing 40 million people in 38 states-but it is only a beginning. We must sustain and build on our momentum, implement the actions we've committed to in the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and encourage more of our fellow mayors to sign on. Toward these ends, there are several important upcoming events I want to bring to your attention.

First and foremost, there will be a heightened international and national focus on global warming this December, as representatives from all of the countries participating in both the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol will meet in Montreal. (Please see the enclosure for more details.) Much of the discussion at these events will focus on compliance with the Kyoto Protocol and what's beyond 2012, after the Kyoto agreement expires.

The events in Montreal offer us a powerful opportunity to highlight the substantial work we are doing in our cities, to advance our call for clear limits and timetables for emissions reductions and to work together to influence national and international policies and programs.

Here are some specific opportunities:

- ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability is hosting its 4<sup>th</sup> Municipal Leaders Summit on Climate Change in Montreal on December 5-7. I will be attending and hope to see many of you there. More information on this event can be found at <http://www.iclei.org/montrealsummit.org>
- The U.S. Climate Action Network is organizing a major press event on December 8 to highlight the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, and to reiterate the call for strong national and international action to stop climate disruption. I invite you to join me at that event if you are in Montreal.
- For those who won't be participating in Montreal, I encourage you to host media events in your own city on December 8, to highlight your commitment and draw attention to recent accomplishments or new actions.
- Simultaneous news conferences in Montreal and a dozen or more U.S. cities would send another strong message that American cities are serious about climate disruption. The U.S. Climate Action Network is offering to help organize these events. Contact Gary Cook at 202-513-6240 for more information.

In addition to the Montreal events, the City of Seattle is establishing a partnership with ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability to help us do outreach to additional cities and to help implement the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. If you're not already a member of ICLEI and a participant in their Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, I encourage you to consider it. Other nonprofit organizations, including the World Resources Institute (WRI) Sierra Club and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), are also actively promoting the Agreement and climate protection at the local level.

Here in Seattle, the Green Ribbon Commission on Climate Protection will be submitting its report and recommendations for Seattle's next major steps toward climate protection in early 2006. We will be happy to share that report with you when it's complete. In the meantime, I've asked my Office of Sustainability and Environment to examine ways that we can facilitate communications and information-sharing among all participants in the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. We hope to have something in place by the end of the year.

Together, we are making a difference. We are taking actions to reduce climate pollution in our communities, while at the same time improving quality of life and economic vitality for our residents and businesses. And, in the face of federal inaction, our leadership has captured national and international attention, spawning numerous media stories and grassroots support from a variety of different organizations. Our message – that we, as cities and as a nation, can and should cut our contributions to global warming pollution – is being heard around the country and the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Greg Nickels', with a stylized, sweeping underline.

GREG NICKELS  
Mayor of Seattle

Enclosure